

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the first paragraph on page 1, as follows:

The present application hereby incorporates by reference in its entirety U.S. patent application Ser. No. [[\_\_\_\_]] 10/613,423, entitled "Distillation of a Fischer-Tropsch Hydrocarbon Stream Prior to Hydroprocessing, by Richard O. Moore, Jr., Donald L. Kuehne, and Richard E. Hoffer; U.S. patent application Ser. No. [[\_\_\_\_]] 10/613,422, entitled "Acid Treatment of a Fischer-Tropsch Hydrocarbon Stream," by Lucy M. Bull, William Schinski, Donald L. Kuehne, Rudi Heydenrich, and Richard O. Moore, Jr.; and U.S. patent application Ser. No. [[\_\_\_\_]] 10/613,058, entitled "Catalytic Filtering of a Fischer-Tropsch Derived Hydrocarbon Stream," by Jerome F. Mayer, Andrew Rainis, and Richard O. Moore, Jr.

Please amend the paragraph at page 6, lines 18-20, as follows:

~~FIG. 2 shows an~~ FIGs. 2A-B show exemplary ion exchange mechanisms ~~mechanism~~ that may be used according to embodiments of the present invention;